

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EB-11 AID-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /142 W
----- 123325

R 200901 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5332

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS NIAMEY 1085

ADDIS FOR DUNCAN

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, EGEN, PFOR, XY, NG

SUBJECT: NIGER AND CEAO

1. IN BRIEF AIRPORT STATEMENT FOR PRESS AND RADIO ON RETURNING TO NIAMEY APRIL 18 FROM ABIDJAN CEAO CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT DIORI NOTED AT OUTSET THAT TWO MEETINGS HAD ACTUALLY BEEN HELD IN ABIDJAN: ONE ON CEAO, AND SECOND ON REFORM OF WEST AFRICAN MONETARY UNION (UMOA), IN WHICH MAURITANIA AND MALI HAD NOT PARTICIPATED.

2. AFTER EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE HE COULD COUNT ON SUPPORT OF ALL NIGERIENS IN DISCHARGING FOR BENEFIT OF ALL WEST AFRICA THE HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES HE HAD ASSUMED AS FIRST PRESIDENT OF CEAO, DIORI HOWEVER OBSERVED THAT NIGER' S INTRA- AFRICAN TRADE WAS MUCH GREATER WITH NIGERIA, LIBYA AND ALGERIA THAN IT WAS WITH OTHER STATES OF THE ENTENTE. HE ALSO RECALLED THAT SINCE 1962 NIGER HAD UNCLASSIFIED

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BEEN EMPHASIZING NEED FOR AFRICANS " TO HARMONIZE THEIR DEVELOPMENT PLANS, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIALIZATION." DEPLORING FACT THAT TRADE OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES WAS LARGER WITH OUTSIDE WORLD THAN IT WAS AMONG THEMSELVES, TOGETHER WITH HARMFUL EFFECTS OF PROGRESSIVE DETERIORATION INTERMS OF TRADE, PRESIDENT DIORI AFFIRMED THAT " OUR INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT SHOULD BE CONSUMED BY ALL THE POPULATIONS WHICH MADE UP THE WHOLE CEAO." TURNING TO SPECIAL HANDICAPS OF INTERIOR COUNTRIES, DIORI UNDERLINED PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE FOR THEM OF " MAXIMUM INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN ROADS AND RAILROADS." PRESIDENT CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT WHEREAS CEAO AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED REPRESENTED 25 MILLION CONSUMERS, " ITS POSSIBLE ENLARGEMENT BY INCLUSION OF OTHER WEST AFRICAN STATES WOULD CREATE VAST MARKET OF FROM 150 TO 200 MILLION CONSUMERS."

3. PRESIDENT DID NOT MAKE ANY STATEMENT ON UMOA DELIBERATIONS ALTHOUGH AFP REPORTED THAT DECISION HAD BEEN REACHED BY HEADS OF STATE TO SET UP WEST AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

MCCLELLAND

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, PFOR, NG, XY
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ADDIS ABABA
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DAKAR
LAGOS

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